

REMARKS

By the present amendment, we revert to the form of the claims presented August 19, 2004. Specifically, we note that in the Official Action that followed that amendment, namely, the Official Action of November 29, 2004, it was held that claims 9 and 14 were drawn to allowable subject matter, because none of the art teaches pretensioning the diaphragm to work in a linear region of the axial displacement means.

We have accordingly added this limitation of claim 9 to claim 1 and this limitation of claim 14 to claim 12, thereby placing those two independent claims in condition for allowance.

We have made corresponding changes in the dependent claims.

We agree with the Examiner that no reference of record or any proper combination thereof discloses the mentioned subject matter. As claims 1 and 12 now recite that subject matter, accordingly, it is believed that they are in condition for allowance, and with them the claims that depend therefrom.

In view of the present amendment and the foregoing remarks, therefore, it is believed that this application has been placed in condition for allowance, and reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any

overpayment to Deposit Account No. 25-0120 for any additional  
fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17.

Respectfully submitted,

YOUNG & THOMPSON

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R. Patch', written over a horizontal line.

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